Radio H.F. Internet Newsletter

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Welcome to the January 2013 edition of the Radio H.F. Internet Newsletter.

Bienvenue a l'édition de janvier 2013 de "Radio H.F. Internet Newsletter".

Sheldon Harvey
Owner, Radio H.F.
Editor/Publisher, Radio H.F. Internet Newsletter

RADIO H.F.

Canada's specialist in shortwave, scanning, amateur radio, antennas, accessories and publications since 1995, brings this newsletter to you, free of charge. Contact Radio H.F. at:

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HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday to Saturday, 10 AM to 5 PM (Eastern)
CLOSED Sunday

Please note that Radio HF does not operate a storefront. It is a mail-order and on-line business. Radio HF also participates in numerous amateur radio fleamarkets and hamfests in Quebec and eastern Ontario every year. For a list of upcoming events please see the Hamfest & Fleamarket Zone in this Newsletter.

VISA, MASTERCARD AND PAYPAL ACCEPTED
RADIO HF GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

THE RADIO H.F. INTERNET NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 15 NUMBER 001 JANUARY/JANVIER 2013

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Greenfield Park, Quebec, Canada
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E-MAIL: hfnewsletter@...
Please visit the Radio HF web page at: http://www.radiohf.ca

Previous issues of this newsletter, from February 1999 to April 2005, may be found at the following URL:
http://www.cidx.ca/radiohf/index.html

Subsequent editions, including the most recent, may be found at:
THE RADIO H.F. INTERNET NEWSLETTER YAHOO GROUP
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hfnewsletter/

Radio HF subscribers are encouraged to send along your favourite web sites for inclusion in future editions of this free newsletter. All contributors whose sites are used in the Radio H.F. Internet Newsletter will receive a 2% discount on their next purchase from Radio H.F. The e-mail address for all contributions, comments, and subscription requests for the Newsletter is:

hfnewsletter@...

DISCLAIMER: The contents of web sites featured in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of the editor, or the contributor, unless specifically noted.

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Welcome to the January 2013 edition of the Radio HF Internet Newsletter kicking off our 15th year of publication.

I do hope that everyone had a great holiday period. With all of that behind us, and with the Mayan prediction for the end of days behind us, we move forward and face what 2013 has to throw at us. In my case it has not kicked off very well at all. My brother had a somewhat serious stroke last week and is in hospital. He was living on his own and we are now facing the challenges of rehabilitation from the stroke and possible relocation of him from his single home to an apartment or perhaps an assisted living environment. We have a long road ahead of us, as does he.

Due mainly the schedule of the holidays, and now this medical issue, this will be a somewhat smaller and certainly a very late edition of the Newsletter. So I'll get right to it. My apologies for the limited content but time just doesn't allow for anything more at this time. Hopefully lots of things will be clearer and more stabilized by next month.

Due to time restrictions our Monthly Special Zone will return in February. Also note that we have the first events of 2013 listed in the Hamfest/Fleamarket Zone. Check out this zone each month for a listing of upcoming events across Canada. Events generally appear up to two months in advance of the events so most events will be listed in two consecutive editions of the Newsletter.

This month's virtual voyage around the world, in the "Where in the World Zone", takes us to The Democratic Republic of the Congo, commonly referred to as DR Congo, Congo-Kinshasa or the DRC. It is a country located in central Africa. It is the second largest country in Africa by area and the eleventh largest in the world. With a population of over 71 million, the Democratic Republic of the Congo is the nineteenth most populous nation in the world, the fourth most populous nation in Africa, as well as the most populous officially Francophone country.
It borders the Central African Republic and South Sudan to the north; Uganda, Rwanda, and Burundi in the east; Zambia and Angola to the south; the Republic of the Congo, the Angolan exclave of Cabinda, and the Atlantic Ocean to the west; and is separated from Tanzania by Lake Tanganyika in the east. The country has access to the ocean through a 40-kilometre (25 mi) stretch of Atlantic coastline at Muanda and the roughly 9 km wide mouth of the Congo River which opens into the Gulf of Guinea.

On a personal note, I chose the DRCongo this month as a good friend of mine has just left for a one-year training and teaching mission with the United Nations in that country. I wish her all the best in this new assignment and wish her health and safety during her time away. It will certainly be an interesting and stressful challenge.

As we enter the New Year please keep in mind that sending along a few web sites for the Newsletter makes my job as editor a lot easier. If you have any sites that you would like to

share, please send them along. Your input is greatly appreciated.

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THE COMMENTS ZONE

No comments this month.

THE CONTRIBUTORS ZONE

Thank you to this month's four contributors.

John Fisher, N. Chelmsford, Massachusetts
Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec
Sam McLauchlan, Pointe-Claire, Quebec
Don Schimmel, Hedgesville, West Virginia

THE MONTHLY SPECIAL ZONE

This zone will return in February.

THE JANUARY ZONE

Each month we feature the monthly page from Wikipedia, the free, on-line encyclopedia. The page features an overview of the month, plus background and general information on the month itself. The actual monthly calendar, clickable day by day, gives a list of special events in history, famous birthdays, anniversaries, etc. for each day. Here is the link for the month of January.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/January

Also, here are some special days and events in January.

MONTHLY CELEBRATIONS

National Poverty in America Awareness Month
National Radon Action Month
National Soup Month
National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month
National Volunteer Blood Donor Month

WEEKLY CELEBRATIONS

20 26 Healthy Weight Week

SPECIAL DAYS

1 The Rose Parade
1 New Years' Day
20 U.S. Presidential Inauguration Day
21 Martin Luther King Day
23 National Pie Day
24 Washington's Birthday Celebration
27 International Holocaust Remembrance Day

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

National Clean up your Computer Month
20 26 Clean out your Inbox Week
14 National Clean Off Your Desk Day
21 National Hugging Day

Source: Chase's Calendar of Events 2013
2013 National Health Observances, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
2013 Calendar of Events, California Department of Education
2013 USDA Health Observances & Holidays
2013 United Nations Observances
VIA
http://ucanr.edu/sites/Spanish/Calendario/January_2011/

RADIO H.F. PUBLICITY ZONE #1

NEW FROM ICOM THE ID-51A VHF/UHF Dual Band Transceiver

After Icom received rave reviews on the ID-31A, and hearing how being dual band would be the perfect D-STAR portable, Icom is excited to introduce the latest D-STAR portable: the ID-51A Dual Band Handheld. It is a compact dual-bander but also incorporates an independent AM/FM receiver. FM, AM and shortwave broadcast stations can be listened to, while using the dual-watch function for monitoring ham bands. When a ham band signal is received, the broadcast station is automatically muted.

For complete details and specifications of this new dual-band transceiver, please see the following web page
http://www.icomamerica.com/en/products/amateur/handheld/ID51A/default.aspx

For details on pricing and availability, please contact Radio HF.

WHERE IN THE WORLD ZONE
THIS MONTH DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

C.I.A. WORLD FACTBOOK DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/cg.html

WIKIPEDIA DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democratic_Republic_of_the_Congo

OFFICIAL PORTAL FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (in French)

http://www.presidentrdc.cd/

CONGO DRC NEWS

http://congodrcnews.com/

This is a page of news and information on the D.R. of Congo

UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION MISSION IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/monuc/

The Security Council established the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) by its resolution 1279 PDF Document of 30 November 1999. This page outlines their work in the DRC.

RADIO STATION WORLD DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

http://radiostationworld.com/Locations/Congo,_Dem_Rep_of/

This is a listing of radio services in the country.

ONLINE NEWSPAPERS DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

http://www.onlinenewspapers.com/drcongo.htm

This is a listing of newspapers in the country

THE RADIO ZONE

DAVE'S HOMEMADE RADIOS

http://www.makearadio.com/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Dave Schmarder is the owner and operator of makearadio.com. His homemade hobby radio website has been on the net since 2002. This is the home of that crazy guy of German heritage that builds all those radios. This website is about the homemade radio projects that he has built. He shows all the circuits and offers good quality pictures. Each project has a description added so that the radio builder hobbyist would have some good plans.

BOB'S ELECTRON BUNKER

http://electronbunker.ca/Home.html

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

This page is a collection of projects, radio theory and software for the radio enthusiast.

ELECTRONIC FOSSIL

http://www.electronicfossil.com/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

This site features collections of radios, TVs, speakers, medical equipment and other specialized collections.

WTIC ALUMNI SITE

http://www.wticalumni.com/

VIA John Fisher, N. Chelmsford, Massachusetts

Here is a site i stumbled across. It has a great history of WTIC Radio in Hartford, Connecticut, and a short blurb on Dick Berton, who was an announcer on the Voice of America.

HOW TO LISTEN TO SPY BROADCASTS

http://lifehacker.com/5961035/how-to-listen-to-real-spy-broadcasts-right-now

VIA Don Schimmel, Hedgesville, West Virginia

This is an interesting source of Numbers related info. Numerous links are indicated including some for online listening.

RADIO H.F. BOOK REVIEW ZONE

EDITOR: T. J. "Skip" Arey

The ARRL Operating Manual - 10th Edition
Edited by Mark J. Wilson K1RO
ISBN: 978-0-87259-596-5
Published by The American Radio Relay League
$34.95 Canadian or U.S. - ARRL Order # 5965
ARRL
225 Main Street
Newington, CT, 06111-1494 USA
Tel: 1-860-594-0200 Fax:1-860-594-0259 E-mail: hq@...

Over the years, I have had the privilege on "Elmering" quite a few folks into the amateur radio fraternity. With so many modes and practices available to any new ham, it can be confusing to the point of paralysis. For this reason, I like to give the gift of The ARRL Operating Manual to anybody I bring into the hobby. For that matter, it is not a bad book to show to somebody you want to introduce to the hobby. The Operating Manual is like a visit to a great ham radio buffet. It gives any new ham, or interested person, a great overview of all the various activities a ham can participate in.
As a tool for new hams, it helps them become comfortable with the best practices so their early on air experiences are positive and affirming.
The book assumes that most new hams will enter into the hobby using VHF/UHF repeaters. But the book shows the new comer how they can expand into more advanced VHF/UHF operating practices.
HF operation is also fully covered including making use of the latest digital techniques.
There is a complete section on public service and emergency communication as well as a chapter on good old fashioned Traffic Handling.
I recommend this book for new hams and even some old school hams who need a lesson or two on the latest operating modes.

Books feature here are available from ARRL or from your favourite radio publications outlet.

THE GENERAL ZONE

SCIENCE TOYS

http://scitoys.com/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Make toys at home with common household materials, often in only a few minutes that demonstrate fascinating scientific principles.
To make it easier to build some of the toys described in the book we have a catalog of parts and science kits. There are chapters on crystal radio sets and basic radio building projects included.

TWIT

http://twit.tv/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

The TWiT.tv Netcast Network with Leo Laporte features the #1 ranked technology podcast This Week in Tech, along with over 20 other top-ranked online shows. Since 2005, our shows have provided news, commentary, help, how-to and perspective on the latest trends in digital tech from seasoned experts and journalists.
Leo hosts and produces many of the shows, but as the network expands new hosts and participants are added. You can learn more about our shows by clicking on the "Shows" tab.

All of our shows are free. TWiT is supported by advertising and listener donations. We limit the number of ads on each show, and we only accept advertising from companies whose products or services benefit our audience.
NOTE: Ham operators may be particularly interested in the series of shows called Ham Nation.

INSTRUCTABLES

http://www.instructables.com/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Instructables was officially spun out of Squid Labs in the summer of 2006, and has gone on to grow from a modest hundreds of projects to over one hundred thousand. The community that now calls the site home is an amazing mix of wonder from around the world. Every day we continue to be amazed by the imagination, curiosity, and simple awesomeness of everyone who shares their creations with us on Instructables.

STAR LIFE CYCLE

http://aspire.cosmic-ray.org/labs/star_life/starlife_main.html

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Stars are a fascinating component of our universe. They may seem like permanent objects in the sky, but technology has allowed us to photograph the heavens, and now we know more about stars than ever before. They are born, they live, and then they die. How does this happen? Find out here.

EARLY COLOR PHOTOS OF AMERICAN SCENES 1939-1943

http://zanylol.com/color_photos.html

VIA Sam McLauchlan, Pointe Claire, Quebec

These images, by photographers of the Farm Security Administration/Office of War Information, are some of the only color photographs taken of the effects of the Depression on America's rural and small town populations. The photographs are the property of the Library of Congress and were included in a 2006 exhibit Bound for Glory: America in Color.

RELIEF WEB

http://reliefweb.int/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Informing humanitarians worldwide since 1996, ReliefWeb has been the leading source for reliable humanitarian information on global crises and disasters. ReliefWeb is a specialised digital service of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

RADIO H.F. PUBLICITY ZONE #3

What is new in books & publications from the American Radio Relay League, the Radio Society of Great Britain, and other publishers?

ARRL Periodicals DVD 2012
for Windows and Macintosh!
ARRL's popular journals are available on a compact, fully-searchable DVD. Every word and photo published during 2012 is included!
QST The official membership journal of ARRL
NCJ National Contest Journal
QEX Forum for Communications Experimenters

In addition, the 2012 version includes source code for software projects and PC board patterns, Section News, Contest Soapbox and Results.
SEARCH the full text of every article by entering titles, call signs, names--any word.
SEE every word, photo (most in color), drawing and table in technical and general-interest features, columns and product reviews, plus all advertisements.
PRINT what you see, or copy it into other applications.
System Requirements: Microsoft Windows and Macintosh systems, using the industry standard Adobe® Acrobat® Reader® software. The Acrobat Reader is a free download at www.adobe.com.
Windows 8 compatible.
DVD requires Microsoft Windows or Macintosh. © 2012, The American Radio Relay League, Inc.
ISBN: 978-0-87259-315-2 Order No.: 3152
Price: $24.95 Canadian or U.S.

2013 ARRL Calendar
Deluxe 13-month Wall Calendar. Perfect for your home, office or ham shack!
Featuring historic highlights from the pages of QST!
Includes:
ARRL Contests and other major ham radio contests
National event dates: ARRL Field Day, Kids Day, JOTA, and more!
Phases of the moon and meteor showers
Holidays and other important dates
2013 Monthly Planner
Product Details
Softcover: 29 pages
Publisher: The American Radio Relay League, Inc.; (September 2012)
ISBN: 978-0-87259-310-7 Order No.: 3107
Price: $12.95 Canadian or U.S.

Radios to Go!
Getting the Most from your Handheld Transceiver
By Steve Ford, WB8IMY
Modern technology has allowed manufacturers to pack a wealth of features into handheld transceivers. With so many features, however, it isn't always easy to get the full benefit from your investment. Even the user manuals don't tell the whole story. Your radio may have "hidden" capabilities that aren't described in the manual at all. For example, did you know that a dual-band 2-meter/70 cm handheld transceiver can be used to communicate through Amateur Radio satellites? It's true, but you usually won't see this discussion in your average user manual.
If you own a handheld transceiver, or if you're trying to decide which transceiver to buy, Radios to Go! is the essential guide. Helpful topics include:
Why Are They Called HTs? (And Which One Should I Buy?)
The Care and Feeding of Batteries
Memories
Scanning
Alphabet Soup: CTCSS, DTMF and DCS
IRLP and EchoLink
Antennas
Microphones and Headsets
Software Management
Expanding Your Horizons: APRS and Satellites
Softcover: 112 pages
Publisher: The American Radio Relay League, Inc.; First Edition/First Printing (December 2012)
ISBN: 978-0-87259-307-7
Order No: 3077 Price: $15.95 Canadian or U.S.

Please visit the Radio HF webpage at
http://www.radiohf.ca/publications.htm for a complete catalog of all books, publications and

CD-Roms available from the ARRL, RSGB and other popular publishers and authors.

THE FUN & SERVICES ZONE

THE KHAN ACADEMY

https://www.khanacademy.org/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

The Khan Academy is an organization on a mission. We're a not-for-profit with the goal of changing education for the better by providing a free world-class education for anyone anywhere.
All of the site's resources are available to anyone. It doesn't matter if you are a student, teacher, home-schooler, principal, adult returning to the classroom after 20 years, or a friendly alien just trying to get a leg up in earthly biology. The Khan Academy's materials and resources are available to you completely free of charge.

LIFEHACKER

http://lifehacker.com/

VIA Don Schimmel, Hedgesville, West Virginia

Tips, tricks, and downloads for getting things done.

THE 2013 HAMFEST/FLEAMARKET ZONE

Each month we list upcoming events, including hamfests, predominantly in Canada. NOTE: All times quoted are local. This list is compiled by Radio Amateurs of Canada, and other sources.

Saturday, February 2, 2013
Big Event 35 - Flea Market and Hamfest
Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Location: Merriton Community Centre, 7 Park Ave., St. Catharines, Ontario
Times: Public 9:00 AM; 7:00 AM Vendors.
Admission: $7.00 per person; Tables: $11.00, table only.
Talk-in frequency: VE3NRS 147.240 MHz + Offset Tone 107.2 Hz
Contact NPARC Big Event Table Co-ordinator David, VE3BBN, at vendors@...
Or, contact NPARC Big Event Convenor Larry, VA3TLN, at bigevent@... for more information.
Email: bigevent@...
Webpage: http://www.nparc.on.ca/bigevent.php

Saturday, February 23, 2013
Burlington Spring Flea Market
Burlington Amateur Radio Club
Location: Royal Canadian Legion - 828 Legion Rd., Burlington, ON
Times: Vendors: 7 am; Public: 9 am to 12:00 noon
Admission: $7.00; Tables: $12.00
Talk-in frequency: VE3RSB - 147.210+; t = 131.8 (required)
Information: Phone: 905-319-1730
Email: barc.springfleamarket@...
Event Co-ordinator: Greg Trasuk, VA3TSK
Webpage: http://www.barc.ca

RADIO H.F. PUBLICITY ZONE #4

RADIO HF GIFT CERTIFICATES

Gift certificates are a great idea if you're not sure what that special person is looking for. Radio HF is offering gift certificates available in any denomination. Please contact Radio HF for details.

RADIO H.F. NATURE BOOKS DIVISION

The Radio H.F. Nature Division offers hundreds of specialty books in the fields of birding, animals, plants, etc. A complete listing of the titles is available on the new Radio H.F. web page at http://www.radiohf.ca. Simply click on the Canada goose!

THE RESOURCES ZONE

The following is a listing of clubs, groups, radio broadcasts and other resources that may be of interest to you.

THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DX CLUB (CIDX)

CIDX is Canada's national radio monitoring club, serving radio hobbyists since 1962 and celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2012. Our monthly electronic newsletter, MESSENGER, covers all aspects of the radio monitoring hobby as well as amateur radio coverage.
SPECIAL OFFER: To all Radio HF Internet Newsletter subscribers, a FREE sample of our monthly CIDX electronic newsletter, MESSENGER, (in .PDF format) is available to you for the asking. Just send along an e-mail to cidxclub@yahoo.com, with a valid return e-mail address and you'll receive your copy. Our January 2013 edition is now available. Membership, at the low cost of $10 per year, is open to radio hobbyists worldwide. Please visit the CIDX web page at http://www.cidx.ca

PRIME TIME SHORTWAVE

Prime Time Shortwave is a listing of English shortwave broadcast that are updated frequently by webmasters Daniel Sampson and by database administrator Ernest Riley. The schedules are constantly updated from various print and internet sources as well as from monitoring by the webmaster and other shortwave listeners and DXers. The shortwave schedules are available by time, country and frequency format. Also, they are available in ASCII, Dbase and Excel. You will also find links to some of the best radio related websites and to the international broadcasters and time conversion charts (some provided by Craig Braun). Please visit the Prime Time Shortwave webpage at

http://www.primetimeshortwave.com/

THE INTERNATIONAL RADIO REPORT

The International Radio Report, on CKUT-FM, 90.3 FM in Montreal this month, is available via the Internet live streaming, and on the airwaves of CKUT, Sunday mornings at 10:30 AM Eastern (1530 UTC). The show's co-hosts, Sheldon Harvey & David Asselin, present a weekly half-hour of news, information and developments in radio broadcasting. The show celebrated its 25th year on the air in November 2012.

Visit the CKUT web page for full CKUT programming details.

http://www.ckut.ca

You can check us out on Facebook as well at https://www.facebook.com/groups/188158277887350/

You may also listen to archived editions of the programme through the CKUT web site. Send your comments or questions to the International Radio Report, by e-mail, to radioreport@...

That is all for this month. Radio H.F. is a mail order, telephone and on line business, with great products, great prices, and personalized service, serving the radio community since 1995. Be sure to visit the Radio H.F. web site at

http://www.radiohf.ca

Please feel free to submit any information for the Newsletter by e-mail to hfnewsletter@....

CONTACT RADIO H.F. AT:

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HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday to Saturday, 10 AM to 5 PM (Eastern)
CLOSED Sunday

Best wishes and 73 from

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